

## Service Hours

### Walk-in Skin testing:

- ♦ Monday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- ♦ Tuesday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### For a referral for a chest x-ray:

#### Bring proof of skin test measurements

- ♦ Hours same as above and
- ♦ Wed./Thurs. 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### For a referral for INH therapy:

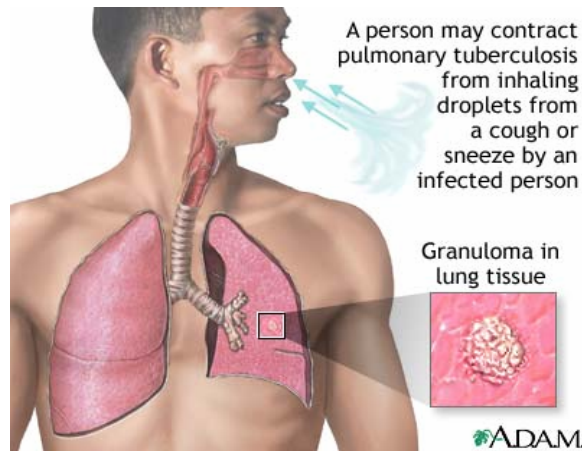
- ♦ Bring proof of skin test measurements
- ♦ Bring a copy of the x ray for physician review

No appointment needed for above services. The clinic is very busy, the wait may be 30 to 90 minutes.

Language interpretation services are available.

Current patients are seen Monday through Friday by appointment only for medications. Please call 645-2199 to schedule an appointment.

Talk with your nurse for the hours medications can be picked up.



Mayor Michael B. Coleman

**Columbus Public Health**  
Teresa C. Long, M.D., M.P.H., Health Commissioner



**240 Parsons Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5331  
[www.publichealth.columbus.gov](http://www.publichealth.columbus.gov)**

**Phone: 614-645-2199  
Fax: 614-645-0265  
For directions or hours call 645-2199**

**Located on the corner of Parsons Avenue  
and Main Street, 2 blocks north of  
Children's Hospital**

**COTA bus route 2**



*Working to keep our  
community TB free*

**Welcome  
to the  
Ben Franklin  
Tuberculosis  
Control Program**



**Columbus Public Health  
Ben Franklin TB Control  
Program**

## What is Tuberculosis?

Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease that is spread from person to person through the air. TB usually affects the lungs.

The germs are sometimes in the air when a person with TB of the lung coughs, sneezes, laughs or sings.

TB can also affect other parts of the body such as the brain, kidneys, and spine.



### Symptoms of Tuberculosis

Symptoms may include feeling weak or sick, weight loss, fever and/or night sweats, cough, chest pain, and/or coughing up blood. If you have any of these symptoms, let the nurse know.

### How can I tell if I have TB?

First, get a TB skin test (PPD). If it is positive, you will probably be given a voucher for a chest x-ray and may have other testing done such as analyzing sputum for TB.

### What services are available at the clinic?

- ♦ Skin test placement (PPD)
- ♦ Skin test reading
- ♦ Assessment for TB
- ♦ Education, medication, and case management for the treatment of Latent TB Infection (LTBI) and active TB disease
- ♦ Finding, testing, and treating others who may have been in contact with someone who has TB
- ♦ In addition, many physician offices are able to provide TB skin testing services

### What do services cost?

**There is a \$15.00 fee for skin tests, with a sliding fee scale based on income and family size.**

TB X-rays may be billed to your insurance or covered by the clinic. Bring your insurance information with you.

Services at the Ben Franklin TB Control Program are funded by the Franklin County Commissioners, Ohio Department of Health, and the City of Columbus.



### How is the skin test given?

A small needle is used to put some liquid, just under the skin. This is usually done on the inside of the arm. This test is safe to take. **The person getting the test must return in 48 to 72 hours to have the test read.** When the test is read, a card is given with the results. A negative test usually means the person is not infected with the TB germ.

If a raised, hardened area develops, the size of this reaction is measured. A positive reaction usually means that the person has been infected in the past with the TB germ. It does not necessarily mean that the person has active TB disease.

### When is a chest x-ray needed?

A nurse will ask some questions to determine if a chest x-ray is needed to check the lungs for TB disease. Sometimes there is proof of prior treatment or a current chest x-ray film and a new x-ray may not be needed. If a chest x-ray is needed a voucher is given to get the x-ray done. Chest x-ray results take about 21 days and the results are mailed to the individual.

If the chest x-ray is normal, the person may still have Latent TB Infection. The TB Clinic doctor may recommend the person be treated with a medication called INH (Isoniazid) to prevent active TB disease from developing.



TB Skin Test